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RUEHRB/AMEMBASSY RABAT 1408
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1357
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 1911
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID 8480
RUEHNC/AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT 5817
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RUEHCL/AMCONSUL CASABLANCA 2729

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SUBJECT: BOUTEFLLKA SENDS BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO KING
MOHAMMED VI

The official French-language daily El Moudjahid reported on August 20 that President Bouteflika congratulated King Mohammed VI of Morocco on the occasion of the latter's birthday. In his message, Bouteflika noted that the King's birthday was adjacent to the anniversary of "La Revolution du Roi et du peuple," which marked the return from exile of King Mohammed V and was important in Morocco's fight for independence from France, and also adjacent to the anniversary of "le Congres a la Soummam," an important occurrence in Algeria's fight for independence from France. Bouteflika remarked that the dates reinforced the bond between the two countries, as both had engaged in a "common heroic fight" exacting a "heavy toll for independence and freedom." President Bouteflika further pledged to work with King Mohammed VI to improve relations between Algeria and Morocco.
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